



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) began construction of the federal **Central Valley Project (CVP)** in the late 1930s, and the project comprises more than 35 dams, reservoirs, and canals (with the Delta-Mendota Canal serving as the primary conveyance). USBR operates the CVP and delivers an annual average of 7.4 million acre feet (MAF) to agricultural users (5 MAF) on 3 million acres of farmland, municipal users (600,000 AF) for 2 million people, and for environmental requirements (800,000 AF).

The California **Department of Water Resources (DWR)** began construction of the **State Water Project (SWP)** in 1960, and the project comprises 29 dams and reservoirs (with the California Aqueduct serving as the primary conveyance). DWR operates the SWP and delivers 30% of the annual average allocation to agricultural users and 70% municipal users. The SWP is smaller than originally conceived, in part due to Wild & Scenic River designations on all or part of several North Coast rivers: Eel, Klamath, Mad, Salmon, Scott, Smith, Trinity, and Van Duzen. Consequently, the project carries an annual average of 2.4 MAF, but entitlements total 4.23 MAF. This disparity in the volume “developed” water versus “contracted” water has been a centerpiece of California’s “water wars”. An annual average of 4.4 MAF of freshwater is diverted from the Colorado River via the **Colorado River Aqueduct** to supply municipal and agricultural users within the Metropolitan Water District (MWD), and the Palo Verde, Imperial, and Coachella valleys, respectively. About 24 million people live on the South Coast. In 2014, Southern California received a relatively ample allocation from the Colorado River, and this will buffer the region from the drought emergency.

The **State Water Resources Control Board** governs the diversion of water from the Bay Delta by the CVP and the SWP, and mandates in-stream flows to protect *beneficial uses* (e.g., fishable, swimmable waters) in the Delta and in the Sacramento and San Joaquin river basins through the Bay Delta Water Quality Control Plan.

Groundwater: In some regions, groundwater provides 60% or more of the supply during dry years. Many towns and small cities depend entirely on groundwater for drinking water supplies, and 40% - 50% of Californians rely on groundwater for at least part of their water supply. Approximately 450 groundwater basins are used to store 850 MAF of water; and an average of 16.6 MAF were used annually -- 2 MAF more than was naturally recharged.